

COURT HOLDS LIQUOR HAS RIGHT TO MOVE

Supreme Court Rules in Case of Street vs. Lincoln Safe Deposit Company.

CONFISCATION HALTED

Proviso Included That Purchase Was Made Before Volstead Act.

TRANSPORTATION DEFINED

Speculation Aroused as to Effect on Bonded Supply and Warehouse Receipts.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—The Supreme Court today held that liquor lawfully acquired for personal use is immune from seizure by Federal prohibition agents, even though it is stored some place outside the home of the owner. The United States Supreme Court held so today in a suit appealed from New York Federal courts.

The decision does not affect the constitutionality of the Volstead act in any way. It disagrees with the Internal Revenue Bureau's interpretation of the act, but the fact that the court held that liquor to be immune from seizure must be lawfully acquired, which means that it must have been acquired before the passage of the Volstead act, and the fact that the liquor must be for personal use showed that the decision will create no great breach in prohibition enforcement.

Intent of Congress.

The decision was made in the case of William G. Street against the Lincoln Safe Deposit Company. Mr. Street had liquor stored in one of the company's vaults and sued to stop revenue agents from seizing it. He claimed that the liquor was his property and that the company was not a warehouse. The court held that the liquor was not the property of the company and that the company was a warehouse.

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\$3,000,000 GIFT BY HECKSCHERS FOR CHILDREN

Block in 5th Ave. Between 104th and 105th Sts. to Be Site for Home.

TO ERECT BUILDINGS

Society for Prevention of Cruelty Will Greatly Enlarge Its Work.

\$60,000 ANNUITY GIVEN

Donors Are of Old New York Family Which Has Possessed Much City Realty.

Mr. and Mrs. August Heckscher, it was announced yesterday by the directors of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, have presented to the society the block front in Fifth avenue between 104th and 105th streets, and will erect on the property such buildings as the society may require and endow them with a fund in perpetuity and to yield not less than \$60,000 a year. Including the endowment the total value of the gift will amount to more than \$3,000,000.

The property, which has a frontage of 200 feet in Fifth avenue, has a depth of 200 feet also in each street, so that the society's new home will occupy a site consisting of almost half the block lying between Fifth and Madison avenues and 104th and 105th streets. The property has been owned by Mr. Heckscher for a number of years, and he has long contemplated giving it away for some charitable purpose. He decided to give it to the Children's Society through having become interested in the society's work several years ago.

Enlarges Society's Scope.

While it has not been fully determined what buildings will be put upon the property, it will be possible, as a result of the gift, for the society to enlarge its scope and care for many more children than it has been able to do up to the present. It now looks after about 500 children a day. With its added facilities it will be able to care for several times that number and also to keep much longer than the week which is now the limit of time within which any child remains in its charge.

In a statement given out last night in making announcement of the gift it was said in part:

"The society has never had at command either adequate housing facilities or sufficient financial support and recently had sold its property at Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue and purchased another home, much too small, for the purpose of erecting a new and more adequate building."

"It is proposed to enlarge the society's work, and the children, if that can be accomplished, will be given opportunity for self-improvement. There will be educational films, a kindergarten, clinic, lecture hall and wading and swimming pools. Altogether the intention is to hold up the feet of many of the seeds for which are sown in the stunted child life of our metropolis."

Gift Is Made Suddenly.

As also was explained last night, Mr. and Mrs. Heckscher decided to make their gift rather suddenly, and after application had been made to them for an omnibus with which to carry children from the present buildings of the society at Inwood to the Children's Court.

The society was founded forty-five years ago by Henry Bergh and Elbridge T. Gerry. Its assets are now about \$750,000. This money will be invested and its earnings used to augment the income which will be given by the Heckschers.

Mr. Heckscher is a member of a family which has been well known in New York for three generations. Its first member to come here arrived early in the last century as consul from Hamburg, then a free city having its own government. His sons, John G. Heckscher and Charles August, were prominent as sportsmen for many years.

Most of the Heckscher fortune has been made during dealing in real estate. Mrs. Heckscher before her marriage was Miss Anna Atkins.

PROTESTS HOUSING OF BRITISH SOLDIERS HERE

Squad of 19 in 7th Regiment Armory en Route.

During a meeting of the American Civil Liberties Union in Cooper Union last night it was revealed by Frank P. Walsh that the Seventh Regiment Armory has been turned over, in part, to a squad of British soldiers who are en route to their post in one of the colonies of the Empire. Mr. Walsh deplored the presence of the British in the New York armory and said they were going to India to "prosecute the policy of murder and destruction."

It was learned later that the only British troops in the Seventh Regiment's building are nineteen officers and men of the Second Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment. They are under the command of Lieut. L. E. Thompson. Lieut. Thompson explained that he and his men were being transferred from Bermuda, to Jamaica, West Indies. He said the squad would be an escort for Sir Eric Geddes, British Ambassador to the United States, when he arrives here Thursday, and that his sailing date had been fixed for next Monday.

HARD COAL MEN JOIN U. S. IN WAR ON HIGH PRICES

Sign Pledge to Bring About Fair Dealings With Consumer.

TO END TRADE EVILS

Outlaw Buying and Fictitious Prices Are to Be Stopped.

PRODUCER TO BAR BROKER

Guarantees of New Era in Industry Made in Philadelphia Conference.

The Anthracite Coal Operators Association, which includes in its membership all the important producers of hard coal, has clasped hands with the Attorney-General to bring down the profiteering rates. It stands pledged to fair prices, fair practices and to a full cooperation with the Federal Department of Justice in the elimination of evildoers and evildoing from the industry.

Official action to that effect, it became known yesterday, was taken recently in Philadelphia by the unanimous action of the policies committee of the association. The pledges subscribed to by this most potent body in the anthracite trade are somewhat similar to those made earlier by the bituminous coal producers of the northern West Virginia district and of other sections of the country, which resulted in heavy reductions in the cost of soft coal at the mines.

S. D. Warriner, chairman of the association's policies committee, is the president of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. The committee is composed of fourteen prominent anthracite producers, seven representing the large so-called "company" mines and seven representing the "independents." There were present at the Philadelphia meeting, in addition to Mr. Warriner, in whose office, 437 Chestnut street, the session was held, these committee members:

P. C. Madeira, John Markle, Gardner Patterson, H. W. Perrin, Thomas Dickson, A. S. Leary, A. B. Jessup, George Robertson, C. H. Jacobs, W. J. Thompson, secretary of the Anthracite Coal Operators Association, and E. W. Parker.

Palmer Aid Present.

C. Lowry Humes, Assistant Attorney-General, also was present as the special representative of the Department of Justice. It was at his request Mr. Warriner had called the conference. Mr. Humes explained the details of the situation in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania as it appeared to the Department of Justice, particularly with reference to the excessive prices which were being exacted in certain instances and which were reflecting discredit upon the industry as a whole.

As the result of a full discussion the association men adopted these resolutions:

"That we pledge to the Department of Justice the cooperation and aid of the anthracite operators in attempting to reduce excessive prices of coal to the consumer by stabilizing the anthracite coal market and eliminating such bad practices as may have grown up in the industry through improper and unsatisfactory methods of distribution."

"That producers refuse to sell to brokers or wholesalers who have not established business or clientele, to the end that outlaw buying and consequent fictitious and artificial prices cannot be created by persons not interested in the business."

"That no sales be made to wholesalers or brokers in the absence of an agreement that the coal will not be sold to other wholesalers or jobbers in the same market, to the end that unnecessary middlemen and their accompanying profit may not increase the price of coal to the consumer."

"That the local requirements for domestic use in the producing districts be provided and protected."

League Without U. S. IS FUTILE, SAYS 'TEMPS'

French Government Organ Cites Difficulties.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1920, by THE NEW YORK HERALD, Paris, Nov. 8.

The Temps, semi-official mouthpiece of the French Government, tonight prophesies the uselessness of the League of Nations unless American collaboration is obtained and foresees a new form by which the details of the details of the League of Nations must be awaited by France with impatience. The Temps article confirms that France is willing to embrace the new scheme, but it raises the question of the juridical aspect of the case with regard to the treaty.

"We are either right or wrong in presuming that the text of the treaty of Versailles assigns a certain role to the League of Nations," it says. "Do we wish to renounce this? Or do we wish to harness and discredit the league to such a point that we could not invoke its authority when we need the treaty text wherein the league figures? Evidently that would not be wise tactics."

CITY BUILDING CONTRACTS INVESTIGATED FOR FRAUD; BACKER GETS WEEK'S STAY

LLOYD GEORGE SHUNS GENEVA

Will Not Attend League Meeting, but Waits for America to Outline Reforms.

BRITAIN FOR CHANGES

Responsible Leaders Insist, However, Present System Must Not Be Destroyed.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1920, by THE NEW YORK HERALD, London, Nov. 8.

The meeting of the assembly of the League of Nations will open in Geneva November 15 without Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain. The New York Herald correspondent here is authoritatively informed that the Premier has decided not to go to Geneva at all unless something develops that is more important than now seems probable.

While the reason for this decision by Mr. Lloyd George was not stated explicitly, the consensus is that it was dictated by the manifest impossibility of proceeding with the reform of the League of Nations before some definite information is obtained regarding the policy of the incoming Administration in Washington.

The correspondent's informant was particularly impressed with what Mr. Harding said, especially with the declaration: "America does not need any meeting with foreign Powers to tell us where we stand, to tell us what our moral obligations are. We want to meet with them, counsel with them, know their thoughts and give them ours, but we want to give these things in the freedom of America."

The comment upon this was: "That is exactly what we have been led to expect." This British statesman was very curious as to whether the President-elect meant that a new conference of all the Powers should be held in Washington or elsewhere in the United States in order to frame a new world programme.

It is possible to reiterate from the same authoritative source that Great Britain is ready to accept almost any kind of an amendment to the League of Nations, but that she is unwilling that the league be destroyed without the hope of constituting a substitute organization which will assure international cooperation to prevent war.

Even Lord Robert Cecil, who is regarded by many persons here as "the fanatical high priest of the covenant," admitted this much last Saturday, when he declared that Geneva had to discuss the question of America.

"It is a question which cannot be approached without a great searching of the heart as to whether we have done our duty by that people," Lord Robert said.

Lord Robert is in favor of admitting Germany to membership in the league and even to permit Russia to apply for membership in it, and on these points, at least, he is backed up by general opinion of the most responsible statesmen here—an opinion which holds that the league will be of little use as long as it is not universal.

"We must have America in it," is the declaration on every hand.

But that is about as far as responsible British statesmen go with Lord Robert in his fanatical devotion to the Versailles covenant.

"Of course, we won't quarrel with America about names and terms," said "We have always recognized that the present covenant was the work of President Wilson and Lord Robert Cecil, both of whom are admirable dreamers. But I think our actions have already demonstrated that we have little faith in the practicality of such a thing as Article X. I thoroughly agree it is wrong to make nations promise to do something they can't perform."

That was the case when the "territorial integrity" of certain members, like Poland, was not only threatened but actually smashed, as it was last year.

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It asks how even Continental disarmament can be discussed at Geneva without the United States, as Continental disarmament must depend on America's own military and naval plans. Nor, it asserts, can German admission to league be discussed.

Los Angeles Asks Army for 5,000 Tent Homes

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 8.—Loan of five thousand army tents to be used by the city of Los Angeles as temporary dwellings was asked of Secretary Baker by the City Council in a resolution adopted to-day.

The resolution declared "a state of emergency" existed in the housing situation.

FEAR BOMB PLOT IN FIFTH AVENUE

All Night Police Vigil Maintained at Home of Mrs. Geo. W. Vanderbilt.

Police and detectives of the East Eighty-eighth street station established a guard last night at the apartment house at 988 Fifth avenue, the northeast corner of Eighty-first street, following an anonymous threat against Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt, widow of the builder and owner of Biltmore, N. C.

Housed in the same building are many men nationally prominent in the professions, commerce and finance, with their families. These include Elihu Root, Murry Guggenheim of the copper firm of Guggenheim Brothers; Lewis L. Clarke, president of the American Exchange National Bank; Henry Goldman of Goldman, Sachs & Co., bankers; Robert E. Todd, former commodore of the Atlantic Yacht Club; Edson Bradley, vice-president of Paris, Allen & Co., exporters and importers, and formerly holder of large interests in the Consolidated Gas Company now held by Nicholas F. Brady, and Watson B. Dickerman, retired broker.

Mrs. Elliott P. Shepard, sister-in-law of Mrs. Vanderbilt, and sister of the late William K. Vanderbilt, is another tenant.

Miss Sarah Lutch, telephone operator in the building, was sitting at her switchboard at 4:30 P. M. when a feminine voice called up and inquired: "Is Mrs. George Vanderbilt in?"

"No, she's out of town."

"It's a good thing," the voice continued. "She won't have any home tonight because her house is going to be blown up."

The caller then rang off. The telephone girl tried to trace the number but got no results. She communicated with A. T. Moberg, superintendent of the building, who in turn notified the police.

Capt. O'Connor of the East Eighty-eighth street police station sent two patrolmen around, and Lieut. Summers of the detective force dispatched two men in plain clothes. While they were inclined to look upon the matter as the work of some harmless crank, they nevertheless decided to maintain the guard all night.

EX-BANKER IS EAGER FOR PRISON TERM

Embezzler of \$300,000 Asks Court to Sentence Him.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—A man in a shabby suit, his face creased with lines of trouble and worry, made his way up to the bench of Judge McDonald in the Criminal Court to-day.

"I want to enter a plea of guilty, right away," he said.

The man was James M. Miles, former vice-president of the Standard Trust and Savings Bank, who had enjoyed wealth and luxury and had fallen to crime and poverty.

Miles pleaded guilty to absconding in November, 1919, with approximately \$300,000 of the bank's funds and was sentenced immediately to the penitentiary for an indeterminate term of from one to ten years.

Police searched the country for Miles, but failed to find him. In March, 1920, he voluntarily came back to Chicago and surrendered.

HOTEL MEN WILL EAT 25c. MEAL ON ISLAND

Wallis to Prove Profit Possible at That Price.

A group of hotel proprietors who have exhibited at the fifth National Hotel Exposition in Grand Central Palace are to be the guests some day this week of Frederick A. Wallis, Commissioner of Immigration, on a trip to Ellis Island, on which they will partake of a 25 cent meal prepared by D. T. MacGowan, the island chef, for employees of the immigration station.

A 17 cent meal prepared by MacGowan for immigrants has been the subject of discussion for some time. The hotel men, it is said, have declared it incredible the meal he does for such a low price and still make a profit. It is to prove that it can be and is being done that the hotel men have been invited to the island.

Lockwood Committee Produces Evidence to Show Collusion Proved.

MEETS Hylan Demand

Testimony Cited to Effect Grafters Pulled Wool Over Officials' Eyes.

NET OUT FOR HETTRICK

Untermyer Vetoes Plan for Sweeping Inquiry Into Municipal Purchases.

The row between Mayor Hylan and the Lockwood investigating committee came to a head yesterday. The Board of Estimate by unanimous vote at a special meeting backed up the Mayor in demanding a "show down" by Samuel Untermyer, chief counsel for the committee, on his statements that many city contracts are based on collusive bidding and should be cancelled.

The Lockwood committee met the challenge by bringing out of the records of its hearings several bits of testimony all tending to show that collusion already has been proved and indicating that if the city officials had known what was going on under cover the contracts would have been kicked out long ago.

It looked for a time yesterday as if the controversy involving the city administration would develop into the big feature of the legislative inquiry.

Becker's Arraignment.

Mr. Untermyer went to the Court of General Sessions for the arraignment of George Becker, millionaire contractor, indicted on a charge of having given false testimony before the committee. Becker pleaded not guilty, and over the protest of Mr. Untermyer obtained from Judge Mulqueen a postponement of one week. Edmund L. Mooney, counsel for Becker, attacked the constitutional rights of the committee.

When Mr. Untermyer returned to his office he found Senator Lockwood and several members of the committee waiting for him. They made known that demands had been coming in from many quarters that the scope of the committee be enlarged to provide for a sweeping investigation of the city administration.

The suggestions to the committee are that the evidence already offered is sufficient to warrant a general probe of city departments to enlighten the public on the municipal way of making contracts. Such an investigation, it was suggested, should cover the whole business of city purchases; the activities of the Comptroller's department, the Tenement House and Building departments in dealing with building plans and contracts, the Dock Department and other bureaus.

Members of the committee seemed to think quite well of the proposition. But Mr. Untermyer instantly put his veto on it. He said the committee would have to get some one else as counsel to take up any such inquiry now.

Political Aspect Seen.

If the committee should begin investigating the city administration, that would give rise to a cry that the Republican Legislature was trying to get something on the Democratic administration preparatory to the next city campaign. Mr. Untermyer is understood to have said:

The investigation was started for the purpose of breaking the grip of the building ring on the city and driving out the crooks who have been holding up construction, the chief counsel insisted, and he did not intend having it diverted at this stage by any political complications or side shows. The purpose of the inquiry is to work out a constructive policy to deal with future building, and that is not to be lost sight of now.

If the evidence brought out in this investigation, shows that city departments need housecleaning, that is a subject which can be dealt with later, the committee was told. The housing inquiry will last until the Legislature convenes on January 1, at which time the Lockwood committee will have to ask for extension of life. When the housing question is well out of the way it will be time to open fire on the city administration, Mr. Untermyer contended.

It is entirely probable that early in the next legislative session the committee will ask to have its powers enlarged to provide for the municipal housecleaning and that next spring New York will get some of the inside facts about its public affairs.

Untermyer's Intention.

Mr. Untermyer said he would be pleased to meet any committee from the city administration and that his only purpose in calling attention to the city contracts was to prevent the public being robbed.

The committee is ready to show the Mayor and his associates in the Board of Estimate that in four public hearings sufficient evidence has been developed dealing with the city contracts for a period of three years to justify wholesale cancellation.

It was pointed out by members of the committee that Arthur Greenfield, president of the Metallic Lathers Employers Association, testified that records of that organization dealing with price fixing had been destroyed. That action was taken because of the fear the papers might get into the hands of the Lockwood committee, and it was known the employers would be incriminated. Several contracts prepared under the price fixing agreement were for school buildings, the witness admitted.

It was brought out several times the kids worked out under Hettrick's supervision.

Continued on Third Page.

Our "Help Wanted" Ad. In The New York Herald, is the best place to get help wanted. Write L. K. Bletcher at Box 123 West 20th St.—Advs.

IN GOOD CONDITION? Father John's Medicine will give you power to fight off colds and grip. No drugs.—Adv.

X-mas Cards, distinctive, in great variety. Prices, 5c. to 25c. 450 N. 5th St.—Advs.

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"Telephone Directory of Home and Business Needs"

A New Department for Your Convenience

THE NEW YORK HERALD

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